

RODEHAM MOORE

As of this date, September 1999, nothing further is known of the parents, nativity, or anything about him beyond that which was presented in the first edition of Rodeham Moore. In short, no progress has been made in this vein. It has been jokingly repeated that God did a special creation in Rodeham Moore as he appears on the scene suddenly without fanfare, explanation as to his origin, or anything about himself.

There has been 24 attempts I am going to say to prove the parentage, origin, or location of birth of Rodeham Moore. All have come short of finding anything positive. All have met with utter defeat. These attempts that I am aware of have been made over a 50 year period. Nothing has been proven. Speculation and rumor has been rampant. Rodeham Moore still stands elusive. I am sure there have been deep searches for information about Rodeham Moore that has not come to my attention. These too have been failures as far as I know.

Stella Setzler of Jackson, MS, a descendant of Rodeham Moore stated in my hearing, "nothing has ever been found out about Rodeham Moore save some public documents." That is correct. I am in complete agreement with that statement.

At the Mooresburg Family reunion in October 1997 I brought this subject to the attention of the entire group assembled there. I stated nothing had been found about Rodeham Moore in 48 years of research by myself, and others nationwide, and instead of continuing "whipping of a dead horse" by me, I would give the group until 31 December of that year to come up with proof of the whereabouts, parentage and other pertinent data proving Rodeham Moore's background and that I would then totally reject all speculation about the subject of this sketch previously held at that time.

Since no one has been able to prove anything about Rodeham Moore in these 48 years I would totally and wholly embrace the family tradition and completely reject any notion he was the son of a planter, he was born and raised in the Tidewater region of VA, and a myriad of other suppositions and speculations. Since none of these has proven true, "now prove the family tradition untrue." I will promote and propagate the Family Tradition henceforth. That is precisely where I stand today. *There is no change here.*

The family tradition states, "Grandfather Moore (whomever he was) came over from Ireland and settled near Mt. Airy, NC and raised his family there." None of the latter part of that statement is in question as there is abundant proof of the whereabouts of Rodeham Moore in Surry and Stokes counties in North Carolina and in Henry or Patrick counties in Virginia during his lifetime. *If Rodham Moore is the one intended here, why move the rest of the statement out of context and inject speculation in its place.* I site now the following observations and statements made of the origin of our Moore kin. Judge John Rucker Moore jurist, barrister, judge, at Stuart the county seat of Patrick was very bold. On a public document written over his signature it was stated, "The Patrick county Moore's came from Ireland." I have seen this document and read that statement. *There need be a fair search of records in the county seat of Patrick and see*

if this can be retrieved. I know for a fact I saw it on a document, a picture, or paper of Court record. Family historian Cora A. Moore Gilmer, sister of Judge Moore above and "Old Joe H. Moore who ran a public store in front of the home of Linda Puckett near the cemetery of Rodeham Moore repeatedly stated her (our) people was from Ireland. The three above mentioned were offspring of Caroline Matilda Moore-Moore who was the daughter of Harden H. Moore, a son of William A. Moore, a son of Rodeham and Elizabeth S. Gallahue Moore. That would be gr. gr. grandfather Rodeham Moore they were speaking of. It seems abundantly clear to me these folk certainly knew where Rodeham Moore came from. I unreservedly embrace the Family Tradition as truth. I anxiously await being proven wrong by positive statistical proof. I will be glad to eat crow if the written truth of the matter be found. That is where I still stand. Researchers should expend their good energies searching, even in Patrick County for some solutions.

After Rodeham and Elizabeth moved from the log home, members of the Moore family continued to live therein. Much later the log home was lived in by Sid Smith and it is where his two daughters were burned to death playing with "barn burner matches." They were buried in the Rodeham Moore cemetery and were later exhumed and buried in Doe Run Church cemetery nearer the Blue Ridge mountain. The old log home was dismantled by Sid Smith. The visible remains is back of the new home of Ms Georgia Puckett. The Puckett's landscaped the area and filled the hand dug well with stones from the building support structure at ground level.

Caroline Matilda Moore Moore was born in the Whitehouse down in white-house bottom below the cemetery of Rodeham Moore. She and her husband Henry J. Moore are later found living in the log home previously owned by Rodeham Moore where they raised their family. Traditionally, Judge Moore, Sarah Jane Moore, Joseph H. Moore, Cora A. Moore Gilmer and William H. Moore were born there and was later the home of Old Joe Moore who owned the store just up the road. These data are indicated by Census returns and house numbering.

Since the Commonwealth of Virginia automatically conferred citizenship on native born Virginians and held jurisdiction over them why was Rodeham Moore required to disavow allegiance to the King of England and swear allegiance to the State of Virginia in 1777 if he was already a citizen? *This was not done to sort out Torys from the rest of the population, and nothing else, as some suggest.*

Comments in italics are my statements made relative to challenges made by a certain genealogist of my work.

Paraphrasing Benjamin Franklin———"You will observe with concern how long a useful truth may be known and exist, before it is generally received and practiced on." Amen.